

THE
INEFFICACY
OF ALL
Mercurial Preparations
IN THE
CURE OF VENEREAL
AND
SCORBUTIC DISORDERS,
PROVED FROM
REASON AND EXPERIENCE:
WITH A
DISSERTATION

ON
Mr. De VELNOS's VEGETABLE SYRUP,
Which radically CURES every SPECIES of the
above DISORDERS.

AND
An accurate ANALYSIS of that MEDICINE,
Made by Order of the Marshal Duke of BIRON,
by Messrs. ROUELLE, and LA CASSAIGNE, Pro-
fessors of Chymistry at PARIS.

To which are added,

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By HENRY SAFFORY, Surgeon.

The SECOND EDITION, with ADDITIONS.

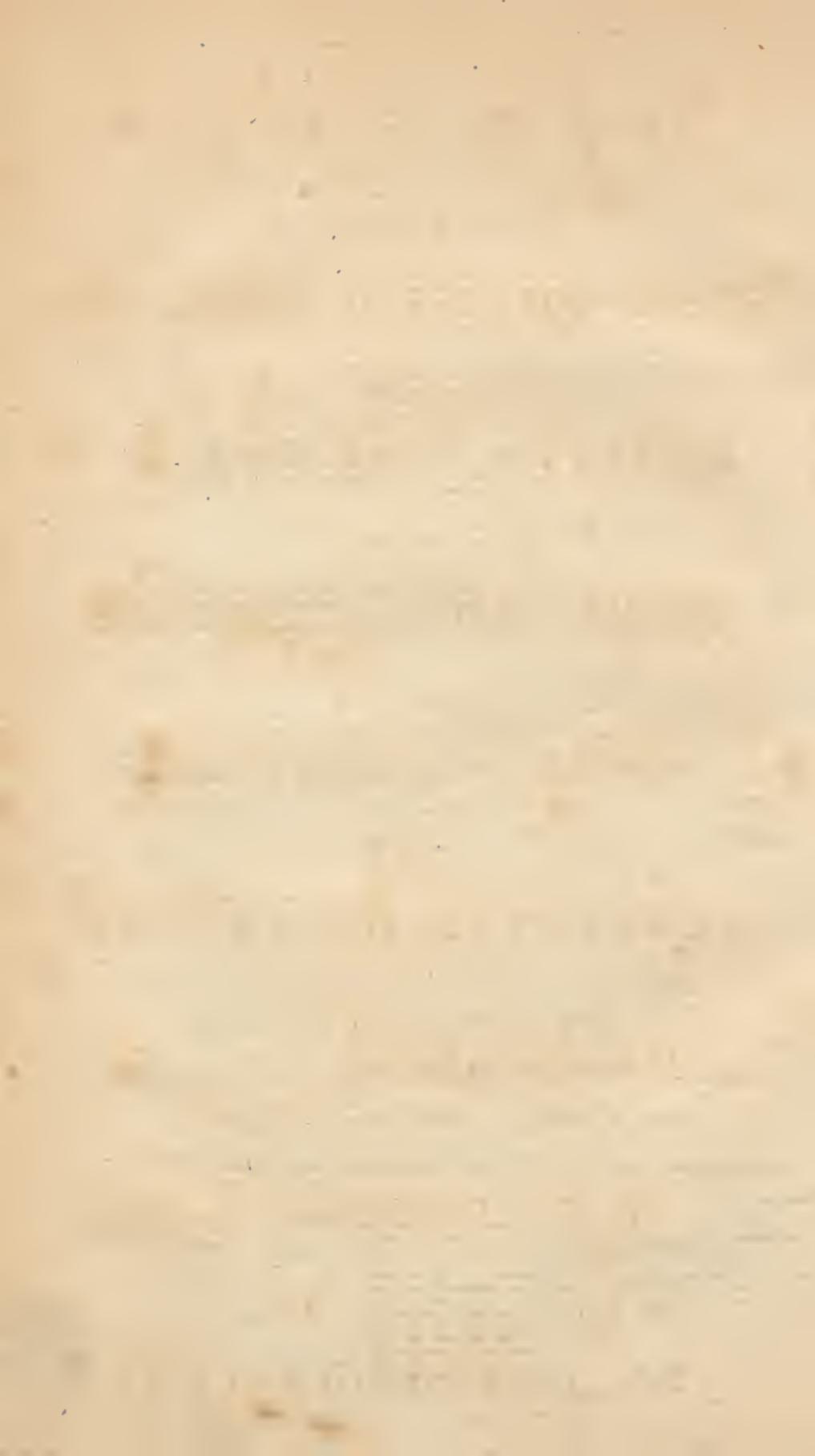
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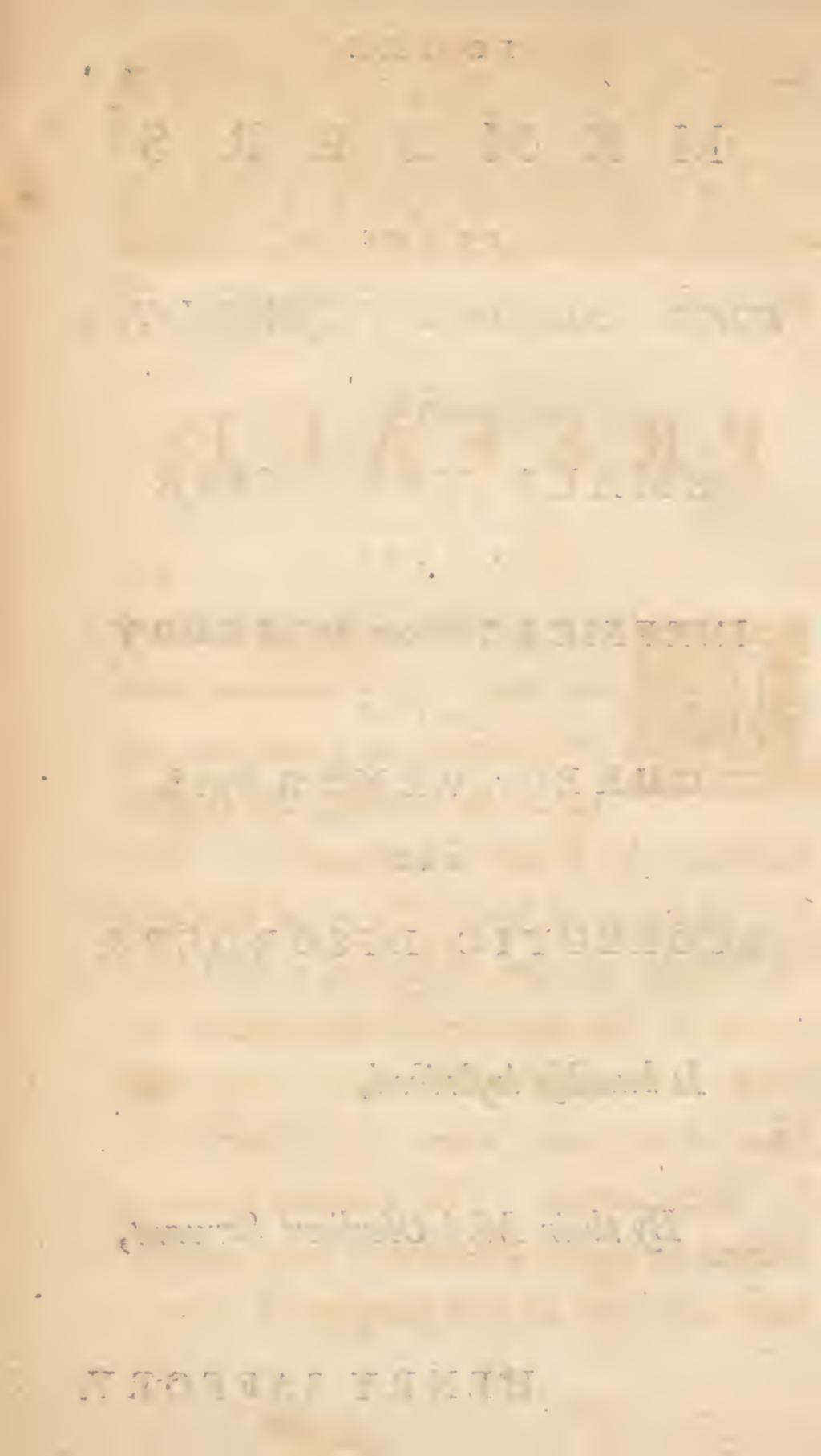


TO THE
MEMBERS
OF THE
ROYAL COLLEGE of PHYSICIANS;
THIS
SMALL TREATISE
ON THE
INEFFICACY OF MERCURY
IN THE
CURE OF VENEREAL
AND
SCORBUTIC DISORDERS,

Is humbly inscribed,

By their Most Obedient Servant,

HENRY SAFFORY.





P R E F A C E.

EVERY member of Society is under an indispensable obligation to promote, as far as he is able, the happiness of the whole community. The soft whispers of humanity plead strongly in behalf of the distressed ; and the heart of that man must be callous indeed, who withholds relief from the cries of anguish, when that relief is in his own power. The human frame is subject to many disorders : pain and disease are part of the portion of mortality.

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lity. Providence has indeed amply furnished the earth with medicines for assuaging the one, and removing the other ; but the knowledge of these simples, their virtues, and the manner of application, are left to the sagacity of mankind ; a task not easily performed. They are scattered in such amazing profusion, and in such astonishing variety, that the mind is perplexed ; and it is perhaps impossible for human abilities ever to discover all their virtues and properties. A composition of various ingredients often effects what all of them singly would attempt in vain : and as these combinations, as well as the simples themselves, are infinite, we need not be surprised, that notwithstanding the prodigious number of eminent men, from the age of Hippocrates to our own times, have spent their lives in improving the healing

ing art, it is still far from having reached the summit of perfection: and that we are yet ignorant of the virtues of many simples with which the bountiful hand of nature has so beautifully adorned the surface of the earth. New medicines are every day discovered, and chance or accident often reveals what the most assiduous application might have sought in vain.

Perhaps a stronger instance cannot be given of our limited knowledge of medicines, than the many ineffectual attempts to subdue the inveterate malignancy of some distempers, which have hitherto withstood all the power of physic, and are still considered as the opprobria of the healing art. But this must not be imputed to nature; she has provided medicines sufficient for every disorder: diseases of this kind

triumph only over the ignorance of the practitioner.

Among these maladies, venereal and scorbutic complaints, especially when complicated, are not the least formidable; and physicians have often confessed, and often lamented, that they have too frequently baffled the power of every known medicine, and defied every attempt to subdue their violence. If my own declaration will add any weight to the general voice of practitioners, I can, with great truth, affirm, that during a long series of assiduous practice, I have met with numberless instances, where all the common methods have been tried without success, and the wretched patients perished under the excruciating tortures of a loathsome disease. The fact indeed is too evident to want any farther proof: the universal acknowledgment

ledgment of the most celebrated physicians have placed it beyond a doubt. Should any person, however, still hesitate to subscribe to the general opinion, I could wish him to visit the places where patients of this kind are received; because ocular demonstration would there convince him, that the fact is too certain. He would there see objects labouring under the extremity of anguish, breathing the most putrid exhalations, and quivering on the brink of eternity, after every known method has been tried in vain.

Affected by sufferings which could not be mitigated, and pierced with the cries of distress which could not be relieved, I have often wished that some fortunate accident, or some happy genius, might discover a remedy, which would enable the faculty to conquer these

these dreadful diseases. But the wish, however generous, was long in vain ; and I began to despair of ever seeing it accomplished, when I fortunately became acquainted with M. de Velnos, the author of a medicine which has acquired great reputation at Paris, as a specific in vénereal and scorbutic disorders, either singly or complicated. I had been too often deceived by pretended discoveries, to believe implicitly his most solemn asseverations, with regard to the great virtues of his medicine. I had never been an advocate for secret remedies, and feared that interest, rather than truth, might form the basis of his assertions ; and that though it might possibly succeed in slight cases, it might want power to eradicate the disease when grown too powerful for other remedies. He perceived my doubts, and took an effectual method to remove them :

them : he offered to submit the efficacy and merit of his medicine to a series of fair and candid trials. This was a proposal which no ingenuous practitioner could refuse. I accepted the offer ; and, from a sufficient number of cures performed on patients labouring under those dreadful disorders, some of them considered as absolutely incurable, I am convinced, that his assertions were founded on truth ; and have the strongest reasons to hope, that his medicine will prove of the utmost advantage to this country. For whatever opposition it may meet with, either from interest, or bigotry to the old methods of practice, I am persuaded its own merit, when fairly tried by the unerring touchstone of experience, will rise superior to all opposition, and silence even the tongue of envy. The candid and ingenuous, those who can feel for the sufferings

ings of their fellow creatures, and sympathize with distress they wish to relieve, will, I am satisfied, give the medicine a fair and impartial trial.

I am not ignorant that every person who attempts to recommend a medicine to the public, without revealing the ingredients of which it is composed, must expect the most illiberal attacks from the malignant pen of calumny. His conduct will be severely censured by those whose interest is concerned to suppress the discovery ; and perhaps he may not escape the animadversions of others, though they may have only some favourite theory, or even the old method of practice, to defend. But I have learned to despise all such ungenerous attempts : they are the common attendants of any innovation. Almost every member of the faculty, however eminent

eminent for his parts and learning, has met with illiberal treatment on endeavouring to introduce any new discovery, new medicine, or new operation in surgery. It will be needless to mention examples of this kind: he must be ignorant of medical history indeed, who does not immediately recollect many that have happened both in our own and foreign countries. It should also be remembered, that several of the most eminent physicians, both of the last and present centuries, had their secret remedies; and perhaps they did more service to the community by concealing the compositions, than they would have done, had they published them to the world.

It is well known, that M. de Velnos performed, by the help of his medicine, amazing cures during his short

stay in England: I myself was a witness to several. I saw, with a secret satisfaction, his success, and became an advocate for his remedy from conviction. I have also received incontestible evidences of its prodigious efficacy from several of the first nobility in France; together with certificates from some of the most eminent physicians in that kingdom. These, I hope, will be considered as proofs sufficient to exculpate me from entertaining even the most distant wish to impose upon the public, in a matter of so much importance. No person surely, who, by the assiduous labour of many years, has acquired some share of reputation, and established his character as a man of veracity, will rashly engage in an undertaking, that may sap the foundation of a structure, which has cost him his whole life to erect! For whoever publishes

publishes a treatise of any kind, submits the truth of what he has advanced to the examination of the public ; and, consequently, cannot complain of its being thoroughly scrutinized. If his assertions are founded on truth, he has nothing to fear ; like gold from the furnace, they will acquire a greater lustre from a candid enquiry.



THE
INEFFICACY
OF ALL
Mercurial Preparations, &c.

HOUGH Commerce is undoubtedly an inexhaustible source of wealth, yet population forms the genuine riches of a kingdom; it gives at once both strength and permanence to the state. Without the assistance of a sufficient number of people, the trade of any country must languish and decay: the boasted manufactures must be neglected, and even the necessary labours of the husbandman must fail. But notwithstanding

standing the evident superiority of population, it has been much less regarded than commerce; which, in this land of liberty, has been carried to a degree of perfection unknown in other countries, by the industry, diligence, and activity of the inhabitants, protected by the power, and assisted by the countenance, of the government. Every manufacture has been improved, and every invention encouraged, that had a tendency to promote the various branches of trade carried on in this flourishing kingdom. These are doubtless noble efforts, and demand the applause of every lover of his country: but surely population, on which even commerce itself depends, should not be neglected. It is really astonishing, that in a country, where the advantages and disadvantages of every contingent are nicely calculated, and the effect of almost every cause foreseen: where the relief of human nature, and the general advantage of society, form the sole wish and aim of the legislature;

so little regard is paid to the preservation of the lives of men, though confessedly one of the grand sources of population. Luxury, and diseases of various kinds, combine their malignant influences in lessening the number of the human species. The excessive use of spirituous liquors, and other modes of living, are destructive of propagation. The continual emigration of people to America, the vast number of hands employed in shipping, and the late call for men to the East Indies, and to settle our new conquests, tend greatly to lessen the populousness of this country, to the irreparable injury of agriculture and commerce.

But among all those causes of depopulation, that relative to diseases is the most alarming; because its destructive effects, though amazingly rapid, are silent and secret. How many daily perish by venereal and scorbutic diseases: a loss of the utmost consequence, because it greatly falls upon those

those men who are of the greatest service to the state. The scurvy may be considered as epidemical to England, owing perhaps to its situation as an island, the coldness and moisture of the air, the food of the inhabitants consisting chiefly of meat, and the long voyages at sea, performed by such numbers of people. We need not therefore be surprized to find, that almost every native of this island is more or less afflicted with the scurvy. This disease is of itself a sufficient misfortune, but when complicated with a venereal complaint, becomes truly alarming. The latter indeed is not, like the scurvy, natural to this country; it has been imported from the continent to the destruction of thousands; and may perhaps be considered as one of the evils resulting from a foreign trade. Wealth, the child of commerce, is the parent of luxury and pleasure; and hence the venereal disease, too often complicated with the scurvy, acquires a malignity in this island, which renders it more violent, rapid, and

and fatal. These diseases, handed down to posterity, are possibly the cause of that degradation of the human species, which had been so often lamented by the writers of our own times. Every discovery, therefore, which tends to lessen this destructive malignancy, certainly deserves the attention of the public. It is, perhaps, absolutely impossible to destroy entirely the source of this evil; but it is possible to stop its alarming progress, if a medicine can be discovered that will eradicate both venereal and scorbutic disorders, whether single or complicated. A discovery of the most singular importance to our soldiers and seamen, afflicted with the former, because it is almost constantly aggravated by a natural scorbutic habit.

It is well known, that the venereal disease is more easily cured, both in France and Italy, than in England; an advantage that results entirely from the warmth of the cli-

mate; yet even there the disease too often becomes incurable, and triumphs over all the art of the physician. It is therefore no wonder that the difficulty is doubly increased in this country, and that the faculty have long wished that a medicine could be discovered, which would enable them to conquer this dreadful disease in its most malignant state, even when complicated with the scurvy. And this noble discovery has, fortunately for the public, been made by Mr. de Velnos. His Antivenereal Vegetable Syrup, radically cures every stage of the venereal disease, though complicated with a violent scurvy.

But, before I proceed to enumerate the virtues and properties of this valuable medicine, it will be necessary to consider the methods generally made use of in the cure of scorbutic and venereal diseases, and shew wherein they are deficient and inadequate to answer the intended purpose.

It is not sufficient, in the cure of the scurvy, to preserve the habit of body from the predisposing causes: a long methodical treatment is necessary.

The curative indications consist in correcting or preventing the alcalization of the humours; restoring the tone of the solids, and the fluidity of the juices; re-establishing the secretions; and, lastly, in procuring the necessary evacuations.

The medicines commonly made use of to effect these purposes are sweet, acid, and bitter vegetables, given in different forms, and in different quantities, according to the various stages of the disorder. But these are inadequate to the purpose. It is not sufficient to affect an alteration in the humours, or even to re-establish the natural functions; for, unless nature be farther assisted by proper evacuations, either by stool, sweat, or urine, the disease too often degenerates into a

disease of another species; when it will be necessary to have recourse to antiscorbutics, given as alteratives, purgatives, bitters, acids, corroboratives, and gentle sudorifics.

These medicines, which experience has sufficiently proved to be necessary in making a radical cure, have their inconveniencies. Purgatives, however properly chosen, and artfully managed, too often weaken and impede digestion; and even their operation is not supported without difficulty by persons of scorbutic habits. Sudorifics disturb the operations of nature, and, finding the humours in a state approaching to a dissolution, increase the evil, and often occasion a total decomposition. Hence we see the reason why the common method of curing the scurvy, though remarkably tedious, is not free from danger; nor is it always certain: too many instances occur in medical history, where all the abilities of the physician have been exerted in vain.

The venereal disease is too well known; and its effects too often fatally experienced, to need any explanation, either with regard to its nature, its origin, or the manner of its communication. It will be sufficient for my purpose to consider the several medicines hitherto made use of in curing this disease, and shew that they are all of them too often inadequate to effect the necessary purpose.

Three different kinds of remedies; sudorifics, purgatives, and mercury, sometimes alone, and sometimes compounded, have been hitherto used in the cure of this disorder. Experience has abundantly shewn that the two first are not sufficient to answer the intention. Mercury, notwithstanding all its inconveniencies, has indeed long been considered as a specific in the venereal disease; but in my opinion very unjustly. I wish there were no instance upon record where all its boasted virtues have failed, the patients, after taking it in almost every form,

have

have fallen a sacrifice to this loathsome disease. And perhaps the only reason why it has so long maintained its place in practice is, because no other medicine of equal virtue, in venereal complaints, has hitherto been known.

It will not be denied but mercury often cures the venereal disease; but is not the patient exposed to dangers and accidents of the most alarming kind; and is not the cure too often partial and incomplete?

Mercury is administered externally and internally.

The external methods are by friction and fumigation. By either of these, it is divided into very minute particles, penetrates through the pores in its metallic form, and affects the salivary glands.

By this method we are never certain with regard

regard to the quantity; we cannot judge of it by its effects, because these are equivocal; it never acts equally on different patients; and the dissolution of the symptoms is an uncertain sign of a radical cure; for it sometimes happens, that notwithstanding all the symptoms occur, the cause is not totally removed. What dependence therefore can be placed upon a medicine, whose effects are so uncertain? If we add to this the danger to which the patient is exposed, notwithstanding all the care of an experienced and prudent physician, our opinion of the virtues of this boasted remedy will be greatly lessened. How often do the most fatal consequences happen from its use? It is not uncommon for the mercurial particles to be diverted suddenly to the head, stomach, or intestines, where the ravages they make are absolutely irreparable.

Whether the intention be to salivate, or whether the salivation comes on, notwithstanding

standing all the care and precaution of the physician, the following symptoms generally attend it : a swelling of the head and neck ; an obstruction and irritation of all the salivary glands : pain, inflammation, and exulceration of the internal parts of the mouth, attended with slough or excrescences, which occasion hemorrhages more or less considerable ; fœtid gums ; looseness and loss of teeth ; and a cruel want of sleep, occasioned by the fear and danger of suffocation.

The patient is more or less exposed to these dreadful symptoms, as he is more or less afflicted with a scorbutic habit ; while the natural effects of the salivation, a strict regimen, pain, and an almost total want of sleep, reduce him to the lowest state of depression ; without affording him the consolation, that a radical cure will be the consequence of his sufferings : because mercury, though administered with the utmost caution to patients afflicted with the scurvy, brings on too suddenly

denly a salivation, which is very difficult to stop; and the quantity of mercury the patient has received is not sufficient to destroy the venereal virus. Nor can this defect be supplied; for every time an attempt is made to increase the quantity, the same accidents return. When this happens, and the venereal symptoms are alarming, the case of the patient becomes deplorable; the scurvy is irritated by a medicine absolutely improper, and both diseases soon increase to a degree that almost defies the power of medicine, and leaves the miserable patient without resource.

But the scurvy is not the only circumstance that renders a salivation improper in the cure of the lues venerea. There are others, among which we may reckon various disorders incident to the palate, the uvula, and the tonsils; together with the erosions and exulcerations of the fauces, which, spreading deep into the subjacent parts, often resemble an eating cancer, which cannot be totally cured

and consolidated, till the disorder which gave them birth is effectually subdued and removed. In this case, therefore, if in any, we are to observe the following maxim, that the peccant matter is neither to be conveyed to, nor evacuated by, the part affected; otherwise it must necessarily happen, that by an accumulation of the saliva, which to the taste of the patient is æruginous, virulent, and has its qualities heightened by the mercury, a gangrene must be produced, and soon after succeeded by a fatal sphacelus of the parts. Hildanus furnishes us with some remarkable instances of this kind, *Cent. 3. Obs. 92.* Salivation is also improper in cases where, besides a redundancy of thick and viscid humours, the patient's strength is much impaired; and this is certainly a very just and rational maxim; since, in consequence of the languor of the whole body, and the defect of a due tone, and sufficient motive force, all the parts, and even the more noble viscera are preternaturally flaccid; hence it happens, that

that the viscid fordes of the humours being thrown into violent commotions by the efficacy of the mercury, are easily, and in great abundance, thrown into those viscera; but cannot, in consequence of the weakness of the resisting fibres, be so easily expelled from them. Hence these accumulated and peccant humours become stagnant, and occasion terrible symptoms of various kinds.* But a more irreparable misfortune is produced, when these fordes are conveyed to the brain, already weakened by previous disorders; for by this means, palsies, apoplexies, and other terrible lethargic disorders must be soon produced. But since in a lues venerea of some standing, and deeply rooted in the humours, there is generally a large quantity of peccant matter; and since the strength of the patient is, for the most part, much exhausted, either by the force of the disease, previous intemper-

* Vide Sennert. Prax. Med. Part. 4. Lib. 6. Fallop. De Lue Venerea: & Sylv. Math. Med. Lib. 2. Cap xi.

ance, surfeits, or an excess of venery, it generally happens, that, in those circumstances, a salivation, by some considered as the only sovereign remedy for a lues venerea, is highly improper and absurd. Many are indeed of opinion, that even in these circumstances the body may be rendered fit for bearing a salivation; if, for instance, before its use, the redundancy of the peccant matter is lessened, and the spissitude corrected by venefactions, purgatives, and the repeated exhibition of sudorifics; but Sydenham's opinion is certainly much better founded; that ingenious practitioner, in his Treatise *De Lue Venerea*, tells us, that by such measures the body is no more prepared for bearing a salivation, than the bodies of soldiers would be prepared for battle, by cutting their nerves. Hence we see that mercury used externally, either by rubbing or fumigation, is so far from being a specific in the cure of venereal disorders, that it is often deleterious; instead of curing, it destroys the patient. Let us now

consider

consider how justly it may be termed a specific in the cure of the lues venera, when administered internally.

Mercury in its crude state, and undivided by any intermediate body, given internally, produces no sensible effects. Cinnabar and \mathbb{A} ethiop's mineral, very little; because it is absolutely necessary to reduce mercury to a saline form, in order to render it capable of being dissolved in the juices of the stomach; for by that means only it is capable of entering the minute vessels of the human body. On this principle, mercury has been combined with all the mineral and vegetable acids, and thence an infinite number of saline mercuries have been produced; but the effects and dangers of them all are directly proportional to the quantity of acid spiculæ, with which the mercury is loaded. Hence we see the reason why mercurial preparations degenerate into poisons; and why they are always more or less dangerous.

The principal preparations of mercury, given in a dry form, are turpeth mineral, mercurius dulcis, calomel, panacea of mercury, white precipitate, &c.

Keyser's and Belloste's pills, by their difficult solubility, remain long enough in the stomach to occasion the most alarming mischiefs; and these will always be proportional to the degree of activity of the medicine, and the quantity of the dose. This method of exhibiting the saline preparations of mercury, should never be practised without the utmost caution, on account of the alarming accidents that may result from their extreme irritating properties.

Sometimes, on account of the violent corrosive quality of the mercurial preparation, it is dissolved in a large quantity of some fluid, as water, spirit of wine, &c. Even corrosive sublimate, one of the strongest preparations of mercury, is given in this manner; and sold to

to the public under different names; but always to the prejudice, and too often to the total destruction of the patients constitution. By this method of exhibiting the saline preparations of mercury, its particles, being already minutely divided, penetrates the capillary vessels, and at once irritates and corrodes the nerves. It is therefore no wonder that the afflicted patient, too often with a painful degree of certainty, attributes to this cause the first attack of a nervous disorder, which all the power of physic can never remove.

If to these we add the inconveniences inseparable from mercurial preparations, and which are always the consequences of their use; if we consider the small number of patients to whom mercury may be exhibited with safety, among whom we must rank youths and old men, women and hypochondriacs; because the delicacy and sensibility of the nerves of the one, and the rigidity of those of the other, render them more susceptible of the

the bad effects of saline mercury; the use of mercurial medicines will be confined within very narrow limits. It frequently causes miscarriage in women during the first months of their pregnancy, and kills the foetus in the womb of those who are farther advanced; it debilitates the stomach, occasions dysenteries and spitting of blood; causes severe and continual pains, tremblings, and the palsy; accelerates a pulmonary consumption in those a little inclinable to that disorder: for mercury always greatly affects the lungs of those who have made a free use of it. Add to this the chronic diseases occasioned by this medicine, and which are with the utmost difficulty, if ever, cured; and generally supposed to owe their origin to other causes; its being absolutely improper to be administered to valetudinarians, and persons of weak and delicate constitutions; and its being absolutely contrary when the disease is complicated with others, especially with the scurvy; and then let the reader judge how far mercurial preparations are useful.

In

In a variety of venereal cases, mercury, instead of removing, increases the complaint; such as ulcers in the palate, swelling of the tonsils, caries and exostoses of the bones, indurations of the glands of the groin and neck, buboes, where they have acquired a certain degree of malignancy, inflammation and hardness of the testicles, warts, and fresh contracted claps; in many other cases it serves only as palliative.

Where then is the boasted efficacy of mercury? Experience has abundantly proved that the small degree of advantage derived from mercurial preparations is more than balanced by the alarming consequences inseparable from their use: the inconveniences far exceed the utility.

But it may be asked, how can these consequences be prevented? Is it possible to cure some stages of the venereal disease without the assistance of mercury? The answer is easy: It is---Velnos's Vegetable Syrup effect-

tually performs the cure, without being followed with any of those evils, which always attend a course of mercurial medicines. It totally eradicates the disease in its most alarming stages, without offering the least injury to the constitution. It may be given with the utmost safety to persons of the most delicate frame; to youths, and even women far advanced in their pregnancy. Its action is remarkably gentle: it ruffles not the constitution; it impedes not the common operations of nature. Of benign and friendly properties, it rather supports than impairs the nervous system. It is equally effectual in the scurvy as in the venereal disease; a complaint which has so long baffled the skill of the most eminent physicians, and which is so common in this country. It answers all the curative indications already enumerated for eradicatin t h at cruel disease; it serves at once as a remedy for the disorder and food for the patient. It acts as an alterative, and by its corroborative qualities re-establishes the secretions; discharges part

of the peccant matter through the pores of the skin; loosens the belly to a convenient degree, and becomes a purgative without its inconveniences.

But when the venereal disease is complicated with the scurvy, the Vegetable Syrup of M. de Velnos, is perhaps the only remedy hitherto known that can effect the cure. It is equally adapted to both, and both are eradicated with the same ease, and nearly in the same time.

A medicine, endowed with these noble virtues, surely deserves the notice of physicians; as it will enable them to conquer a complication of diseases, which has hitherto defied the power of medicine, and carried thousands of useful members of society untimely to the grave. This capital medicine has been known some time in France, and has met with the approbation of the faculty at the royal college of physicians in Paris, and I would willingly

willingly hope, that by introducing here a medicine, which totally eradicates all kinds of venereal and scorbutic disorders, without the least injury to the constitution, I shall be thought to have done some service to this country, by saving the lives of many of my fellow creatures.

But in order to support in England the great reputation which the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos has justly acquired in France, and prevent the public being imposed upon by a spurious medicine, it is necessary to observe, that a composition of a very different nature is sold in London, under the deceptive title of *The Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos, with improvements.* Dr. Burrows, the author of this medicine, being well acquainted with the virtues and efficacy of Velnos's Syrup, and the great reputation it had justly acquired at Paris, agreed with the inventor for a certain number of bottles of the Vegetable Syrup, which he administered

in London, promising to pay M. de Velnos a certain price for each bottle, and actually performed some remarkable cures with that quantity of the medicine. But his covetousness soon proved too strong for his virtue; he scrupled not to sacrifice the confidence of a generous public at the shrine of avarice. A spurious composition, under the ungenerous pretence of its being the medicine of Mr. de Velnos with improvements, has for some time been advertised in the public papers by this *conscientious* gentleman.. Dr. Burrows has indeed pretended, that he knew the composition of Mr. de Velnos's Vegetable Syrup. But it may surely be asked how he came by the secret? he never had it from the inventor; and no other person in the world knew what the ingredients are of which it is composed; before Dr. Mercier and myself, who purchased the receipt from Mr. de Velnos.

It has more than once been asserted in this dissertation, that Mr. de Velnos's Syrup is composed of simple vegetables only; and that from this circumstance it derives a peculiar advantage over all other medicines extracted from any bodies belonging to the mineral kingdom. Because, though it is far more efficacious, it is not susceptible of those dreadful consequences that generally attend a course of drastic mineral preparations. It may be given with success in all complications, at all seasons, and to all constitutions. Even an error in the administration, or the imprudence of the patient, can produce no alarming effect. It is therefore of the utmost importance to establish the truth of this assertion, namely, that the Syrup of Mr. de Velnos is compounded of simple vegetables

only:

only: and I flatter myself that the following ANALYSIS of the Medicine will be abundantly sufficient for that purpose.

ANALYSIS

A N A L Y S I S

*Of the Syrup of Mr. de Velnos, * made by Order of the Marshal Duke de Biron, by Messrs. Rouelle and La Caffaigne, Professors of Chemistry in Paris; who first made the Experiments separately, and then, in order to corroborate the Truth of the whole, repeated them together.*

THIS Remedy, in its natural state, exhibits the appearance of a syrup of a thinner consistence than the common; of a brown colour; transparent; of a taste a little

* This Medicine was administered by Dr. Mittie, in the hospital of French guards, under the inspection of Messrs. Bercher, Le Thuilier, Doyen, Guilbert, and Deslou, doctors regents of the faculty of medicine, and M. Dufouart, surgeon major of the regiment of guards.

little medicinal, but principally that of sugar.

Experiment I.

ONE pound of the Syrup, distilled in balneum mariæ, gave not the least indication of spirit; but the phlegm was slightly aromatic.

Experiment II.

FOUR ounces of the Syrup poured into a plate of delph ware, and placed in balneum mariæ, produced one ounce five drams of crystalline matter, of a brownish colour, and which attracted the humidity of the air.

Experiment III.

SIX drams and a half of the above crystalline matter, being put into two ounces of

F

rectified

rectified spirit of wine, and digested in balneum mariæ, the menstruum was strongly tinctured; and, after being decanted, filtrated and set in a cool place, deposited a sweet, viscous extract.

Experiment IV.

A second digestion in the same quantity of spirit of wine, gave the same produce.

Experiment V.

BY a third digestion in the same quantity of a spirit of the same quality, the menstruum was not so deeply tinctured; and, being deposited in a cool place, a small quantity of little crystals of a sweet sugary taste, shot to the sides of the vessel.

Experiment VI.

A fourth and fifth digestion gave the same produce.

Experiment VII.

A F T E R these five digestions, there remained a black matter weighing twelve grains, of an insipid taste, absolutely insoluble in spirit of wine, but easily soluble in water. On being thrown on burning coals, it gave a smell compounded of those arising from animal and vegetable substances; owing to the matter used in the clarification of the Syrup.

Experiment VIII.

T H E menstruum charged both with the extract and saline matter, being mixed, first with

with a little, and afterwards with a large quantity of water, did not become turbid.

Experiment IX.

THE spirit of wine, charged with the extracted matter of the first and second digestion, being drawn off in balneum mariæ, and again cohobated and distilled, there remained an extract, sweet and very tenacious, of a yellow brown colour, attracting the moisture of the air; and being added to that which was actually deposited, weighed three drams and a half.

Experiment X.

WE have already observed, that from the third, fourth, and fifth digestions, some crystals were obtained; these crystals weighed a dram. The menstruum in which they shot,

shot, being evaporated, produced no more; but there remained a dry sugary matter, weighing one dram and one scruple. The crystalline particles were prevented from shooting, by being wrapped up in a small portion of the unctuous extract obtained by the two first digestions.

Experiment. XI.

THESE crystals, as well as the unctuous extract, being thrown upon burning coals, did not decrepitate, but diffused a smell of burnt sugar.

Experiment XII.

FOUR ounces of the Syrup, being placed in balneum mariæ, and the fluid evaporated to a dryness, there remained one ounce five drams of desiccated matter. This matter

pul-

pulverised, was put into a glass retort with four ounces of well rectified æther, and digested in a sand heat, with a moderate degree of fire. The æther was then drawn over into a matrass luted to the mouth of the retort; cohobated; again distilled, and again cohobated; after which the digestion was continued for two hours. By this means we obtained a tincture, diffusing the smell of ambergris; and the æther being evaporated, the dry matter had the same smell, was transparent, and of an acrid taste. This desiccated matter dissolved totally in spirit of wine; and water being added to the tincture, it rendered it but very little turbid.

Experiment XIII.

A part of the above desiccated matter digested in warm water dissolved totally, except a few minute resinous particles in such small quantity, that they seemed not to have resided

fided originally in the medicine, but to have been formed by the action of the small portion of acid in the æther on the oily parts of the vegetables used in the composition of the syrup.

Experiment XIV.

SIX ounces and a half of the disiccated matter procured from a pound of the syrup, being put into a retort, and the vessel placed in a reverberating furnace, there first came over a considerable quantity of phlegm, the acidity of which increased in proportion as the fire was augmented. As the heat became more violent, the acid became more concentrated, and more empyreumatic ; and at the same time there came over a black oil, partly limpid, and partly thick. The fire being raised to the most violent degree, more acid and oil came over ; but not a single particle of mercury. The retort being broke,

there

there remained, dispersed all over the internal source, a burnt matter or coal, extremely rarified, like that of an unctuous body.

Experiment XV.

THIS coaly matter being pulverized, mixed with the black flux in a crucible well aluted, and melted in a wind furnace, not a single metallic particle was found at the bottom of the crucible.

(Signed) ROUELLE.

LA CASSAIGNE.

(Professors of Chemistry in Paris.)

O B.

Observations and Deductions.

I.

IT follows from the first experiment that one or several aromatic vegetables are used in the composition of the Syrup.

II.

From the small degree of colour and taste of the extract obtained by the second experiment, it is plain, that the syrup contains only a small quantity of active particles, and that sugar, or some saccharine matter, forms the predominant part of the medicine.

III.

It follows also from the third, fourth, and ninth experiments, that the active par-

ticles in the syrup are very few, and that a considerable quantity of honey is used in the composition.

IV.

From the fifth, sixth, tenth, eleventh, and fourteenth experiments, it follows, that sugar is also used in the composition of the syrup; because we have been able to separate it from the extract by crystallization, and consequently to determine the quantity; and as it is very probable, that equal parts of sugar and honey are used, and as two drams and a scruple of sugar are contained in two ounces of the syrup, if we add two drams and a scruple of honey, there will remain only one dram and twelve grains of active particles.

V.

It is evident from the seventh experiment, that the syrup had been clarified either with
ifinglafs,

ifinglass or the whites of eggs ; but the quantity of either is too small for us to imagine it is used to increase the virtues of the medicine.

VI.

From the eighth, twelfth, and thirteenth experiments it appears, that the syrup does not, in its natural state, contain any resinous particles ; but as the active part dissolves equally in water and spirit of wine, it may be considered as a resinous extract.

VII.

In fine, it is evident from the fourteenth and fifteenth experiments, that the syrup does not contain a single particle, either of mercury, antimony, or any metallic or semi-metallic substance whatever.

CONCLUSION.

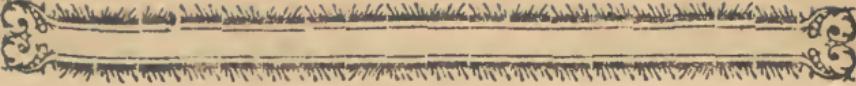
From the whole therefore it appears that the syrup of Velnos is compounded of a considerable

fiderable portion of sugar and honey, of a resinous extract from one or several aromatic vegetables, and a small part of isinglass or whites of eggs ; the whole dissolved in a large quantity of water.

Signed

LA CASSAIGNE,
AND
ROUELLE.

CASES



REFUTATION

O F

Dr. BURROWS's late PAMPHLET.

HOWEVER unwilling the author of the following little tract has always been to answer declamatory language, such calumny obliges him to prove, before an impartial public, his own rectitude and his opponent's baseness. When falsehood and detraction are employed to vilify an individual, a regard to his own character admonishes him to reply, but when that falsehood may eventually injure the community, it is criminal to be silent.

The

The author, conscious of the justice of his cause, with pleasure appeals to facts, disdaining to use scurrility for argument, or fallacies for truths. In a pamphlet published by Dr. Burrows, with the pretence of refuting arguments advanced in a publication by the late Mr. Saffory, surgeon, the readers were promised a full and satisfactory account of the whole matter in dispute, and the title page, like the trumpeter at a puppet-shew, announced that his was the only booth in the fair; but expectation, as usual, was disappointed, and the piece refuted itself.

A disputed point is seldom discussed with that candour and calmness necessary to investigate truth. Men are often deluded by their passion, and florid futile arguments often deceive the understanding, and mislead the mind: False logic, like a glaring blaze, dazzles the senses, but is soon extinguished by the steady beams of truth. It therefore is necessary to reply to the many false assertions

of Dr. Burrows, detect his evasions, and expose him to the public, as he realy is, an *impostor*. *Fænum habet in cornu, longe fuge.* HOR.

Well knowing the difficulty of discountenancing conceit, or reclaiming injustice, the author wished to decline the thankless task ; but as the *Doctor's* self-sufficiency has brought this retort upon himself, let him remember that he who throws the first stone is answerable for the consequences.

Dr. Burrows informs us that Mr. de Velnos was bred to the sea, and commanded a ship trading to the Levant, and sagaciously concludes that therefore he was not the original inventor of the Vegetable Syrup. Have not the most useful discoveries both in physic and mechanics originated either from chance, or the experiments of the curious ? Mr. de Velnos fortunately learned the basis of his medicine in his travels ; he has acknowledged that the salutary roots, plants and flowers, the

com-

component parts of his syrup, were pointed out to him in Nigritia, by a native of Calabria, and being an eye witness of its wonderful effects in the most obstinate venereal and scorbutic disorders, he was induced to make it into an agreeable syrup, of which he claims the invention.

Dr. Burrows afferts in his affidavit that he not only knows the composition of Mr. de Velnos's Vegetable Syrup, but has improved the same. Would not a candid declaration of the manner, time, and place in which he procured this knowledge satisfy the public, more than the mere *ipse dixit* of an interested man? Messrs. Saffory and Mercier have every testimony in their possession, to convince the public of their being the only proprietors of Velnos's original Vegetable Syrup, as it will appear by the following affidavit :

AFFIDAVIT of Mrs. de VELNOS.

Jane de Velnos, late of Paris, but now residing in Dean Street, Soho, in the county of Middlesex, maketh oath, and saith, That she is the lawful wife of John Joseph Vergely de Velnos, the inventor and sole proprietor of a medicine known by the name of Velnos's Original Vegetable Syrup ; and this deponent saith, That her said husband having been afflicted with a severe and continued illness, hath long since intrusted this deponent with the secret for making the said medicine. This deponent hath since that time constantly sold and administered the said medicine by her agents in Paris, and elsewhere in the kingdom of France, with the greatest success : And this deponent saith that her husband having been prevented by such illness from coming to England, she hath lately, by virtue of a general power and authority given to her by her said husband, communicated to

Peter Mercier, of Frith Street, Soho, in the county of Middlesex, doctor of physic, all and every the ingredients made use of by this deponent in the composition of the said Syrup, and hath taken the said Peter Mercier into partnership with her said husband and herself, for the better administering the said medicine in his Britannic majesty's dominions; the said Peter Mercier having, in conjunction with Messrs. Saffory, surgeons in London, been concerned in the sale and administration of the said medicine for three years past; and this deponent upon her oath faith, That the said medicine hath not any thing of a mercurial, antimonial, or metallic nature whatsoever in its composition, but is made and prepared from simple vegetables only; and this deponent faith, That she hath been so induced to communicate the said secret to the said Peter Mercier, as well in consideration of the great trust and confidence this deponent and her husband have in his integrity, as also, if possible, to prevent the public from being

being imposed upon by any medicine offered to them in the name of this deponent's husband, every such medicine being *spurious*.

Sworn at the Public Office in
Symmond's Inn, the 13th
of April 1775, before me

JANE DE VELNOS.

BEN. BLUME, Interpreter.

THOMAS CUDDON.

Thus the *Doctor* hoped to overturn the structure of reputation raised by the Original Vegetable Syrup, and to mount upon the ruin of others; though he pretences to sell as a principal the medicine he once sold as an agent, may as easy detection ever attend similar impositions!

Messrs. Saffory and Mercier procured the secret by a legal purchase, at which this agent took great umbrage, but has never told the public how he obtained his knowledge of the composition, and has constantly refused to submit his medicine to analyzation, the only fair mode of proving it genuine or spurious.

Dr. Bur-

Dr. Burrows next assures us that Mr. de Velnos has long since divulged his secret to a committee of twenty-four members of the faculty at Paris: this he should know is a matter of form in that country, upon granting what they call a privilege. Mr. Senac, first physician to the king, being satisfied by the accounts of Monsieur Petit and other eminent physicians, of the great efficacy of Mr. de Velnos's medicine, after it had been analyzed by two professors of chymistry, under the inspection of the Marshal Duke of Biron, granted him, gratis, what is here styled a patent; but were his majesty's letters patent here as hard to obtain, the king's signature would never have been prostituted as in the present instance, nor would Dr. Burrows have had authority to give fraud a sanction.

Dr. Burrows also communicated his secret to a committee, but did he divulge the component parts of his spurious nostrum? he did not; nor was it required of him. I beg the reader

reader to judge whether the ablest chymists could, from what he thought proper to reveal, gather sufficient information to enable them to make his syrup.

COPY of Dr. BURROWS's Deposition, taken upon Oath,

“ I take of the eccoprotic or milder purging plants, with a proper quantity of salt tartar, and let them infuse some time; after which, I make use of antivenereal and antiscorbutic plants, moderately bruised before expression, adding a quantity of the juice of dendelion; then depuration is necessary, for freeing them from all heterogeneous matter, afterwards let them stand some time in a moderate digesting heat; then decantation is required, after which despumation, by adding white of eggs to the fluid to be clarified, and when boiled to a proper consistence, filtration or percolation

“ lation follows, by passing without pressure
 “ the fluid to be purified through proper
 “ strainers, at length it is made into a syrup
 “ for use.”

Rifum teneatis Amici.

How destitute of understanding must that man be, who can stoop to contradict his own assertions ! this, through necessity, Dr. Burrows has recourse to ; he has repeatedly acknowledged the receipt of one hundred quarts of syrup from Paris, at two different times ; yet in his last pamphlet he affirms with his natural effrontery, that he never administered a single bottle of Velnos's Syrup in this kingdom. The contrary is the fact. Dr. Burrows received fifty bottles of Mr. de Velnos's syrup from Paris, which was paid for, agreeable to articles ; when that quantity was disposed of he sent for fifty bottles more, for which he never made any remittance, and this broke off the correspondence between him and Mr. de Velnos.

When

When it becomes necessary for a man to rail, it is injudicious to stigmatize his adversary with the very epithet which he himself deserves. From this, however, in the warmth of his defamation the Doctor shrinks not, and brands another with the name of nostrum-monger general, when he was contractor at one time for three different nostrums from Paris, viz. with Mr. Valabreque for his Persian drops, with Mr. de Velnos for his Vegetable Syrup, and with Mr. Gamet for his cure of cancers: the last he advertised here lately, since which the Doctor has fortunately hit upon a new method of convincing himself and friends, of the credulity of the public, by improving the art of midwifery, and facilitating births.

The remarks which have fallen from the pen of Burrows relative to Dr. Mercier's having kept an academy, his decoying Mr. de Velnos from France, his acting behind the curtain, and personating the late Mr. Saffory, are little paltry insinuations, more worthy the

mouth

mouth of a valet, than the great improver of medicine. Dr. Mercier has had an university education, and has received his diploma, which constitutes him master of arts, and doctor of physic; he was a partner from the beginning, and known as such; never attempted to personate another, but by a candid behaviour has gained the esteem of his numerous acquaintance, and the character of an honest man.

Mr. de Velnos came to England unasked to claim his right, and to expose Dr. Burrows for imposing on the public a spurious medicine in the name of the author.

Dr. Burrows says in his pamphlet, page 15, "Mr. de Velnos finding himself totally disappointed in his mighty expectations, and probably having discovered that he was allured over as a mere tool to carry on the machinations of others; as the wifest step he had taken during that whole

" trans-

“ transaction, returned to France, promising
“ to revisit London, but has not made his
“ appearance since.”

The following plain tale will expose the Doctor's talent of falsifying. In order to put a stop to the practices of an impostor, Mr. de Velnos repaired to London, where he met with the reception he deserved both from his friends and the public; and, during a residence of three months, properly exhibited the character of Dr. Burrows, his unfaithful agent. He then returned well satisfied to Paris, with an intention soon to revisit England, but age and infirmities prevented him from putting this design into execution. He therefore sent his wife to London, with a special power of attorney, and she has confirmed upon oath the truth of the above,* and other particulars, which would be sufficient to put any man but Dr. Burrows to shame and confusion.

* Vide the affidavit, page 57.

I know not whether the Dr. possesseſſes the ſecond ſight, or by what other extraordinary quality he became ſo well acquainted with our agreement with Mr. de Velnos. How can he tell what quantity of Syrup was left with Meſſrs. Saffory and Mercier? they can prove they had a large ſtock when Mr. de Velnos returned to France, and have ſince received two invoices at ſuch a rate as has enabled them to ſell it at one guinea per quart, which may ſerve as an anſwer to his filly obſervations concerning the reduced price.

Dr. Burrows aſks, what ſatisfaction can the public receive from the analyzation of the medicine? they are aſſured that it contains not a grain of * mercury or other metallic ſubſtance. Dr. Burrows ſays the ſame of his boasted ſpecific, but has forgot to prove it;

* A quality which can with truth and justice be attributed to no other remedy in the ſame disease. *Dr. Burrows's first pamphlet, page five.*

a simple assertion from a man whose affidavit has been proved untrue will be distrusted.

Dr. Burrows, in his account of cures, inserted the case of Mrs. Mary Boardman of the Cloisters, four months after her death; this cure was certainly complete, and we doubt not but his medicine has given the same effectual relief to many others.

Dr. Burrows accuses Dr. Mercier of vending a spurious sort of bougies, thereby invading the property of Mr. Lallier, Surgeon. Now, the said Lallier is no surgeon, but was a servant to Mr. Daran in Paris, where he learned to make bougies. Dr. Mercier has been intimately acquainted with Mr. Daran both in Paris and in London, and purchased his compositions from a person who lived with the said Daran, who made his medicated bougies for a long time, as may be attested on oath, if required.

However, the accusation, had it been true, was impertinent, and strongly marks the weakness of a man casting about for arguments of recrimination.

The author of this little tract has now gone through Dr. Burrows's pretended refutation of the late Mr. Saffory's remarks, &c, has shewn it to be a shameless and evasive recantation of former principles. He hopes that if justice is preferred to a specious shew of honesty and truth, the remedy and arguments will alike bear analyzation, while Dr. Burrows stands convicted as *an impostor* at the bar of that impartial public, whose favour the author wishes to enjoy, as he may deserve.

C A S E S,

*Wherein Velnos's Vegetable Syrup has been
administered with the most surprizing Success
in venereal and scorbutic Cases.*

C A S E I.

*London, } Eleanor Smith, now of the
(to wit) } parish of St. Botolph, Bishops-
gate; maketh oath and saith, that she, this
deponent, for some months past has been
afflicted with the most dreadful symptoms of
the venereal disease, attended with shankers
and sores of the foulest kind, together with
the most excruciating and constant pains in
her head and limbs, which reduced her to
so miserable a state of lowness, that she could
not walk across the room without assistance.
This deponent also declares, that she was, at
the same time, afflicted with what is called
a hectic fever, in consequence of the above
complaints,*

complaints; but by the taking of M. de Velnos's Vegetable Syrup, administered to her by Messrs. Saffory and Son, surgeons in Bishopsgate Street, London, this deponent declares, that she was perfectly and radically cured; that she now remains in perfect health, and that all her sores are healed, without having any other remedy applied to them, except the syrup used as a wash.

ELEANOR SMITH.

Sworn, September 30, 1772.

Before me,

WILLIAM NASH, Mayor.

C A S E II.

Mary Wilson, late of the parish of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, about 22 years of age, laboured under a complication of some of the most obstinate venereal symptoms I ever saw. The injury had been received

ceived some years; and she had been long afflicted with the most excruciating pains, running sores in many parts of her body, shankers upon the labiæ, and a node of the size of a pigeon's egg, and excessively painful, on one of her legs. She was naturally of a scorbutic habit, and this, complicated with the venereal disease, had so emaciated her body, that even an attempt to effect the cure, by the common method, must have been attended with the most fatal consequences: But by taking of four bottles of Velnos's Vegetable Syrup, and observing a strict regimen, every symptom of her complaint was removed; she was perfectly cured, and in less than three weeks after recovered her former strength.

Witness to the Cure,

Le Febvre, M. D.

Dover Street, Pic-
cadilly.

C A S E III.

John Nelson, formerly of the parish of Maplebeck, in the county of Nottingham, mariner, had, for fifteen years, laboured under a dreadful complication of the scurvy and venereal disease. He acquired the former in his youth, by the almost constant use of salt provisions at sea, and contracted the latter when about twenty years of age. Time had increased the symptoms to so violent a degree that even life itself was become a burthen. He had continual running sores in both his legs, a fistula in perineo, which had penetrated the urinary passage, so that he voided as much water through the wound as by the urethra. In this deplorable condition he began a course of the syrup, which in about two months removed all his complaints, and in less than four, was radically cured and enjoyed since a better state of health than he ever could remember in any one period of his life.

C A S E

C A S E IV.

MR. William Painter, of Church Street, St. Anne's, after being for a considerable time afflicted with a most inveterate and confirmed venereal disorder, attended with a chancre on the glans penis, of a most enormous size, which had eat quite through into the urethra; with a variety of other dreadful symptoms, excruciating nocturnal pains in the head and limbs, venereal blotches, and, from repeated mercurial courses, quite emaciated. In this situation he regularly took a course of the Vegetable Syrup; and in one month was perfectly cured.

C A S E V.

Alexander Nevie, living with Mr. Collier, a baker, in Bishopsgate Street Without, was cured by taking four bottles

only, of a confirmed lues, being not only afflicted with a most violent phimosis, but had all the inguinal glands schirrous, ulcers in the urethra, attended with a pocky hectic, and so delicate a constitution, that not the most gentle dose of any mercurial preparation that could be given, but what instantly flung him into the flux, and brought on variety of disorders ; he was several times attempted to be cured in the common way, which was absolutely impossible : in this situation he took the Original Syrup, and in three weeks was perfectly cured.

C A S E VI.

A Gentleman, whose name I have liberty to mention, was for three years afflicted with strictures and ulcerations in the urinary passage, the effects of an ill cured gonorrhœa, for which he had tried almost every remedy extant,

extant, but never received the least benefit. In this situation he took six bottles of the Vegetable Syrup with unlooked-for success; and has gratitude enough to declare, that every future happy moment of his life dates its origin from the remedy he so fortunately experienced.

C A S E VII.

To Messrs. SAFFORY and MERCIER.

Having lately received a cure by taking your Vegetable Syrup, which from the nature of my complaints I totally despaired of, I am induced to give you this public assurance of my being indebted, perhaps for life and constitution, to your invaluable medicine; a most obstinate scorbutic complaint had attended me for a considerable time, for which I had repeatedly taken the advice of some of the most eminent of the faculty in vain; it

grew

grew at last so exceeding bad as to affect one of my eyes, which I was daily in fear of losing, attended with a total loss of appetite, and excessive pains in all my limbs; being recommended to the Syrup by a friend of mine, who had received a remarkable cure, I was induced to try it, which I did with the most pleasing effect; being perfectly and radically cured of all my disorders by taking five bottles only.

I remain, gentlemen,

Your most grateful humble servant,

JOHN BAXTER,

Of the Ladies' Coterie, Albermarle-Street.

C A S E VIII.

James Spence, Esq. at No. 12, Castle Street, near Barner Street, Oxford Road, was, for many years, afflicted with a violent scurvy, which affected both his legs, as to occasion

caſion continual eruptions, and ulcerations of a most malignant nature ; after trying many medicines in vain, was radically cured by taking five bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup. He now remains in perfect health, and is willing, for the general good of mankind, to ſatisfy any perſon of the above truth.

C A S E IX.

MR. Lever, at No. 6, George Yard, Lombard Street, was afflicted with a ſurfeit and a violent ſcurvy, his face and whole body being full of red ſpots and pimplies, of which he was radically cured by taking five bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup.

C A S E X.

MR. John Cruchet, of West Street, St. Anne's, Soho, was for many years afflited with a virulent ſcurvy, both his legs

were

were swelled and full of lived pimples, which occasioned so great a lameness, that it was with great difficulty he could walk, after taking four bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup. was radically cured.

C A S E XI.

To Messrs. SAFFORY and MERCIER.

GENTLEMEN,

I Nduced by a motive of humanity, I request my case may be published, the peculiar misfortunes of which bore so heavy on me that life became a burthen. I was afflicted with the most violent scurvy, my whole body almost one universal scale, particularly my arms and legs, which was pronounced to be a leprosy. I had been an out-patient at St. George's hospital, but met with no relief, the excruciating pains constantly depriving me of rest for several months. I had most of my joints affected with painful and indurated swellings, particularly my right

right ancle, and my knee contracted, which occasioned such a lameness that it was with the greatest difficulty I could stand; I was also excessive weak and in a decline, from a hectic fever, together with a total loss of appetite. The first bottle of the Original Vegetable Syrup greatly abated my pains, five finished my cure in the space of six weeks, and restored me to my former health and strength; which to this moment I enjoy, to the surprise of several people of credit and reputation, who will attest the same. In gratitude to you, and for the good of mankind, I request you to publish my case.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

ROBERT HUTTON,

At the Penny-Post Office, Lambeth-

Marsh, opposite Mount Row.

Witnesses to the cure.

J. WILLIS, Master of the Thatch'd
House Tavern, St James's Street.

R. SUTTON, Master of the Ladies'
Coterie, Albermarle Street.

C A S E

C A S E XII.

To M^{ess}rs. SAFFORY and MERCIER.

GENTLEMEN,

Gratitude to you, and feeling for my fellow creatures, are the motives of this letter, which I request you will publish in justice to your most excellent Vegetable Syrup, and in order to let the world know the great virtues of that admirable medicine.

I had been for a long time afflicted with a violent scurvy, complicated with a general rheumatism of my whole body, which rendered me so feeble and helpless that I could not turn myself in bed without assistance. I laid in this melancholy situation for upwards of three months, with the additional agony of pains from head to foot; a wasting hectic, and a total loss of appetite to struggle with.

Two

Two eminent persons of the faculty constantly attended me, without being able to procure me the least relief; or alleviate my disorder. Nature being quite exhausted, I despaired of recovery, when Mr. Hutton, (at the penny post office, Lambeth Marsh, opposite Mount Row) an old patient of yours; and one who had already experienced the certain efficacy of your most admirable remedy, recommended me to you:

After taking the first bottle, I found my strength so amazingly restored, that I could not only turn in my bed without help, but even walk my room: In short, I recovered so fast that in about a fortnight I was able to go out; and when I had taken six bottles, was (by the grace of God) radically cured of all my complaints, and found myself once more in possession of those inestimable blessings, health and tranquility. The truth of the above is very well known to all the neighbours,

bours, who are ready to attest the same to any enquirer.

I am,

With the warmest sense of gratitude,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obliged humble servant,

THOMAS HOWELS,

Farrier, Lambeth Marsh.

Witnesses to the cure,

JOS. HOPKINS, Surgeon,

No. 85, Frith Street, Soho.

ROBERT HUTTON,

Lambeth Marsh.

C A S E XIII.

MR. Beaumgartner, merchant, of Poor Jewry Lane, Aldgate, residing at Chelsea, was, for a number of years, afflicted with a most virulent scurvy, which had occasioned one universal scurf over his head, which constantly discharged a large quantity of peccant

fœtid

fœtid matter: there was also upon his forehead a lump as big as a pigeon's egg; several of the joints were enchylosed, particularly the left arm, which he had nearly lost the use of. At the same time he was afflicted with severe complaints, universal lassitude, and a want of appetite; together with a constant and most excruciating rheumatic pains in all his limbs. In this deplorable state, he applied to M. de Velnos, when he was last in town, who gave his Syrup with the greatest success: the fourth bottle perfected the cure, except a little lameness, which was removed after M. de Velnos's departure, by administering of a fifth bottle, the patient was radically cured; and now remains in perfect health.

C A S E XIV.

MR. John Man of Cold Bath Fields, was most severely affected with a complication of the scorbutic rheumatism; he had lost

lost the use of one arm for three years before, which limb never had the appearance of any eruptions, the other was constantly covered with large pustules like the small pox. Every application both external and internal had failed. A physician advised him to try the Original Syrup, which he did with surprising effect; the first bottle that he took apparently disagreed with him, and made him rather hotter than before; the second threw him at times into a violent itching of the blood, and several spots appeared on the lame arm, which in a fortnight was covered with a thick rash, he then began to feel a free circulation in the limb, and by perseverance in the use of the Original Syrup, he perfected a cure, and has the perfect use of all his limbs.

C A S E XV.

John Hanson, a mariner, who from living on salt provisions had acquired the scurvy in so violent a degree as to be covered over entirely

entirely, body and legs; as a leopard with an universal white scale that would scrape off like chalk, a continual nauseous and vomiting, and could digest nothing the least solid; six bottles of the Syrup perfectly cured him, and he now remains well and in perfect health.

C A S E XVI.

MR. James Sprags of Spitalfields was afflicted with scorbutic eruptions over most parts of his body, which constantly discharged an ischorus matter prodigiously offensive, and of so hot a nature as to excoriate the skin wherever it touched, his general constitution was much emaciated, dwindled to a mere skeleton from excess of pain; was relieved by a few bottles of the Original Syrup, and perfectly cured in ten weeks.

C A S E

C A S E XVII.

MR. Alexander Donald, of Margaret street, Cavendish square, after being affected in the most violent manner for six years with the scorbutic humour so interwoven in his constitution as to occasion a caries of the shin bone, which never could be brought to separation, tho' he had tried fifty different remedies, and had been salivated twice; by taking fife bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup the bone exfoliated, in two months he was perfectly cured, the wound healed, and his constitution restored to its pristine health.

C A S E XVIII.

MR Mathews, formerly of Chancery Lane, was for fourteen years, afflicted with the scurvy every spring and fall, he was covered

covered with running sores, which, by the use of salt bathing, was a little kept under ; he was at Margate at the time he applied for the Original Syrup, at which place he took five bottles, and was radically cured, that is two years ago, and he has not had the least return since.

C A S E X I X.

J. Watts, a labourer, afflicted in the most terrible manner with scorbutic eruptions all over his body, and a wound upon one of his legs, for which he had been in four different hospitals without the least benefit, five bottles of the Original Syrup perfectly cured him.

C A S E

C A S E . XX.

MRS. Martin, of Horden, was for several years in the most alarming situation, from a violent swelling of the abdomen, and a prodigious indurated lump as big as a cricket ball, of the right side; she had generally a yellow complexion, bordering on the jaundice, universally obstructed with scorbatic eruptions and pimples at times, her disorder was pronounced a bad liver, and supposed to be fatal, but fortunately her physician who attended her advised Velnos's Original Syrup, which by taking regularly with the most minute attention for three months, she became gradually restored to a state of perfect health, which she enjoys to this hour.

C A S E . XXI.

Andrew Mofs, at Bow, was for upwards of seven years afflicted with a scorbatic nervous headach, so as to prevent his working

working at his trade, which was that of a carpenter, he was frequently taken in an instant with such excruciating pains in his forehead as to occasion partly the loss of sight; he had on one arm some scaly white pustules, which at times discharged, then he was free from pains in his head; he took five bottles only of Velnos's Original Vegetable Syrup, which perfectly and radically cured him.

C A S E XXII.

MR. Marchmont, a foreigner, residing in Mark Lane, had from his infancy been afflicted with a leprous scrofulous, he was at times one universal scale; six bottles of the Original Syrup, and a great attention to regularity of diet perfectly cured him.

C A S E XXIII.

MR. Goodwin, of Lambeth, had, by request of some of the faculty, been salivated for some swellings that were of an alarming nature, the glands under the arm-pits, in the throat and groins were prodigiously indurated, but did not give the least way to the strongest mercurial courses that could be used, both external and internal; it was judged scrophulous, he was advised to try the Original Syrup, which he did with the desired effect, in less than two months he was perfectly cured.

C A S E XXIV.

MR. Munroe, resident at Brighton-stone, was for fourteen years afflicted with scorbutic eruptions in his face and neck, for

for which, he had applied to several of the faculty with no success ; his head, face and shoulders being one universal scab, five or six bottles of the Original Syrup made him perfectly well.

C A S E XXV.

MR. Warren, a gentleman whose afflictions in point of illness was incredible, never knowing a single day's ease or health for many years ; he was afflicted by scorbutic obstructions, hereditary, his whole family being eat up with the scurvy, his feet, legs and arms were one sore, at times discharging plentifully, at others quite dry, with a white scale, his face covered with red pimples ; he was also affected with a constant nervous head-ach, and had the rheumatism in every limb. In this situation, exhausted by repeated trials of almost every medicine extant,

tant, he took a regular course of the Original Syrup, which in two months cured him.

C A S E XXVI.

Paul Martin, of Birmingham, coachman to a gentleman of that place, cured of a confirmed lues, after trying different preparations of mercury in vain, by taking a few bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup.

C A S E XXVII.

Mr. John Bradwick, of Plummer's Court, Holborn, cured of an inveterate lues. See his case, written by himself, which cannot with decency be printed.

C A S E

C A S E XXVIII.

MR. Raimond, valet de chambre to a nobleman, cured of an inveterate scurvy in his hands and feet, complicated with a certain disorder, by taking six bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup.

When it is remembered how few persons choose to have their names publicly mentioned, especially in venereal cases, no apology will perhaps be expected for inserting the following cures performed on anonymous patients: but have obtained free liberty to refer any candid enquirer to those patients, who will very readily give them abundant satisfaction.

C A S E XXIX.

MR. and Mrs. G. of Crown Street, Soho, were cured of a confirmed and inveterate venereal complaint, of twenty-one years standing,

ftanding, which disorder being so complicated with the scurvy, that it baffled every medicine, administered by several persons of the first consequence in their profession; they had also took without the least effect thirty bottles of Burrows's Syrup with improvements. Six only, of the Original Syrup, administered to each, radically cured and restored them both to their perfect health and strength. The particulars of their disorder, and the above case is written in the husband's hand writing, with permission to shew it to any candid enquirer, and is to be seen by applying to Dr. Mercier, at No. 39, Frith Street, Soho.

C A S E XXX.

C. F. Esq. of Devon, by unfortunately loading his constitution with mercurials, together with a natural scorbutic habit, had by the violence of the disorder lost the

the sight of one eye, the other could scarce distinguish large objects, his gums were entirely eat away, several of the teeth were carious, and a small portion of the lower jaw diseased, generally dibilitated, with night sweats, and a bed hectic cough; in this situation Messrs. Saffory and Mercier were sent for to see him, they advised his being brought to London, and placed under their care, when by a careful administration of the Original Vegetable Syrup, they had the pleasure to return him to the longing arms of a large and excellent family, in about three months, perfectly well; a large portion of the jaw separated, several of the teeth were extracted, and after taking only three bottles, he could sleep half the night with perfect ease, lost his cough, and by degrees every unfortunate symptom vanished.

C A S E XXXI.

TW. Union Stairs, Wapping, from a constant use of salt provisions, had the scurvy settled in the point of his right arm, which became quite scrophulous, a large wound broke out near the tip of the elbow, from whence a large discharge issued for several months; in less than a fortnight, by taking the Original Vegetable Syrup, the wound bore a different aspect, the discharge lessened, and in six weeks he was perfectly well.

C A S E XXXII.

L. B. of Onger, in Essex, a grazier, laboured under a complication of disorders, particularly a deafness, occasioned, as was pronounced by a scorbutic humour in the blood, which shewed itself even in his infant state;

state; he had for several years a foetid discharge of wax and matter from both ears, and often extremely deaf; at times the glands of the neck enlarged, and once suppurated; he had tried innumerable remedies, and had applied in vain to two persons famous in disorders of the ears: a gentleman in the neighbourhood who had received a cure by the Syrup, recommended it to the above person, whom, by taking seven bottles, in the space of nine weeks became perfectly well, and has remained so ever since.

C A S E XXXIII.

H. G. of the island of Guernsey, was confined to his room seven months with the rheumatism, complicated with some other disorders; particularly the scurvy, to so violent degree that he was constantly obliged to be dressed by a surgeon twice a day, for

three months, having running sores in both legs and arms, most of his joints were absolutely echyloſed, and by the use of crutches only he could crawl across the room, he was then attended by a physical person in the island, who had administered the Original Syrup with surprising effect; he put this person under a strict course of it, which in less than four months, perfectly restored him to the free use of all his limbs, and a perfect restoration of health.

C A S E XXXIV.

L. U. of the island of Grenades, was cured by taking four bottles only of the Vegetable Syrup, after every other method had failed, of a virulent sharp scorbutic humour, that excoriated every other part it fell on; in this case, it was remarkable that he had taken two bottles only, when the ischor that dis-
charged

charged from the scorbutic eruptions had lost its usual heat; for, before, the very rheum that came from his eyes, caused the skin to come off from the face; in one month he was perfectly cured.

C A S E XXXV.

H. G. recommended as a pauper, by the parish officers, was cured of an inveterate scurvy which had broke out in red pimpls all over his body, with so violent an itching as to occasion him to tear the skin off in such a manner, that he could not turn from one side to the other. He took five or six bottles of Velnos's Original Syrup, and was perfectly cured, and remains without the least return of his disorder.

C A S E

C A S E XXXVI.

A Nother person, recommended by the same officers, received a cure in a similar case, except this last was complicated, he having the jaundice and dropsy at the same time, but as it all arose from one grand cause, Obstructions, and that scorbatic, the Syrup had a happy effect, and he was well in a short time.

C A S E XXXVII.

W. T. recommended by Mr. Thomson of Cheshire, had from his infancy, occasioned by a surfeit, one of the most virulent scorbatic complaints that could possibly be, attended with several aggravating circumstances, such as a general debility, night sweats, and swellings in the legs; he took only four bottles, of the Syrup, and was, and now remains in perfect health.

C A S E

C A S E XXXVIII.

A Gentleman who keeps a lottery office, being afflicted with an inveterate scurvy, after spending five hundred pounds in various medicines and advice in vain, was radically cured by taking seven or eight bottles of Vellinos's Original Vegetable Syrup.

C A S E XXXIX.

A Gentleman residing in Holborn, was afflicted with several cutaneous irruptions in the face, occasioned by a sharp scorbutic humour in the blood, was perfectly cured by taking six bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup.

C A S E

C A S E X L.

A Gentleman of Marsham Street, Westminster, cured of carnosities and strictures in the urethra, with excoriations on the præputium of twenty years standing, by the use of a few medicated bougies and seven bottles of our syrup, he was radically cured.

C A S E X L I.

AN officer cured of an inveterate lues, after trying the strongest mercurial preparations in vain, was radically cured by taking seven bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup.

C A S E X L I I .

AN elderly lady, cured of an inveterate scorbutic complaint and pimpled face, occasioned by a surfeit, by taking five bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup.

C A S E

C A S E X L I I I .

A Valet de chambre to a nobleman had almost lost the use of his left arm, by the use of mercury, and was full of pains in the joints, especially his ankles; he was radically cured by taking six bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup.

C A S E X L I V .

THe daughter of a gentleman had several ulcers in her legs, one in particular on the side of the tibia, very deep and of a malignant nature, the skin of her legs was like the scale of a fish, she was radically cured by taking at two different times a course of the Syrup. She was recommended to wash the sores with the Syrup, and in less than three months, was perfectly cured.

C A S E X L V.

A Young lady of Southampton, afflicted with an inveterate scorbutic humour and pimpled face, was perfectly cured by taking five bottles of the Original Vegetable Syrup.

C A S E X L V I.

A Country gentleman had several irruptions in his face, arms and legs, occasioned by a surfeit, complicated with the scurvy, was radically cured by taking six bottles of Velnos's Original Vegetable Syrup.

C A S E X L V I I.

To Messrs. SAFFORY and MERCIER.

GENTLEMEN,

I Should think myself wanting of gratitude and even of humanity, was I to delay any longer to acquaint you of the extraordinary

cure

cure I received by the use of your Vegetable Syrup. I had been afflicted for several years with a most malignant scrofulous and scorbutic humour all over my body and face, especially in my head, arms and legs, which constantly discharged an ichorous matter very offensive, and of so hot a nature as to excoriate the skin of my face wherever it touched, my constitution very much debilitated, and dwindled to a mere skeleton from excess of pain. After trying several medicines in vain, which did me more harm than good, a gentleman of this place recommended me to your Vegetable Syrup, having performed a surprising cure on one of his friends; I applied to you, and after the second bottle I found myself stronger, having a better appetite; the swellings in my neck disappeared gradually, the discharge of my sores were less offensive, and in two months time was radically cured of all my complaints, to the great joy of all my acquaintance, and have enjoyed ever since a perfect state of health. In gratitude to you,

and for the good of those afflicted as I was,
I request you to publish my case.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obliged humble servant,

JOHN LANE,

Master of the Angel Inn and

Livery stable, Birmingham.

Birmingham, July 25, 1775.

Witnesses to the cure,

THO. WARREN.

P. F. BOURGEOIS.

C A S E XLVIII.

To Messrs. SAFFORY and MERCIER.

GENTLEMEN,

THE extraordinary cure I have lately received by a course of your Velnos's Vegetable Syrup, binds me in gratitude to make known to the public, the wonderful effects of that most salutary remedy. At the time I began the Syrup, I was afflicted with the most melancholy and severe venereal symptoms

toms that could possibly be ; ulcerations of the worst nature in the throat and palate, almost all I drank came through the nose, the bones of which were considerably affected. I had constant excruciating pains in all my limbs, one of my knees was enchylosed, the ankles as well as shin bones considerably enlarged. I had been salivated in the Lock Hospital, since which, I have been under the hands of many of the faculty, and of the first consequence in their profession ; tired of life, and lost to despair, I was advised to take your Syrup, by a person receiving a cure in a similiar case. I am now, by taking six bottles of it, in perfect health, radically cured of all my disorders, and a living witness of the great efficacy of the Original Vegetable Syrup ; in gratitude for benefits received, I request my case to be published, and am respectfully,

Gentleman,

Your ever obliged humble servant,

GEORGE OLIVER.

Long-Acre, November 23, 1775.

C A S E

C A S E X L I X.

Extract of a Letter from Paris, Feb. 3, 1776.
(Translated from the French.)

To Dr. MERCIER.

S I R,

I Have the pleasure to acquaint you that Mr. De Velnos's Syrup hath performed here lately a wonderful cure. The secretary of the Venetian Ambassador, after a course of mercury had failed, had his throat ulcerated all over, and could take no food but by the means of a syringe, so that there was hardly passage to convey through that instrument a little broth, and by taking a few bottles of the Syrup (administered by Dr. Mi-quet,) he was radically cured, to the great astonishment of the faculty and advocates of mercury.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

LE CLERC.

C A S E

C A S E L.

To Meffrs. SAFFORY and MERCIER.

GENTLEMEN,

Having received a perfect cure of a bad complication of a nervous and scorbutic disorder which had afflicted me for several years, with the most violent pains in my head, much emaciated, and reduced by low spirits. I fortunately took seven bottles of your Original Velnos's Vegetable Syrup, which has restored me to my proper health, after trying various medicines and variety of advice in vain. I am desirous of making this known, and therefore give you leave to publish it.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your most obliged humble servant,
ELIZABETH RYLAND.

No. 25, Bennet Street, West-
minster, July 10th 1776.

C A S E

C A S E L I.

To M^{rs}. SAFFORY and MERCIER.

GENTLEMEN,

Having been for upwards of six years, afflicted with a most violent scorbutic humour in my arms and legs, complicated with the rheumatism, which almost totally deprived me of the use of my limbs, so as to disable me from carrying on my usual business, and, by taking five bottles of your Velnos's Original Vegetable Syrup, am perfectly cured: After the second bottle I was able to walk several miles upon the stretch, which I had not been able to perform for these several years past, and by the grace of God and the assistance of your Vegetable Syrup, I enjoy at present a perfect share of health. In justice to your most excellent medicine, and for the benefit

benefit of those afflicted as I was, I send you this extraordinary case, with my consent to publish it.

I am, GENTLEMEN,

Your most obliged humble servant,

FRED. POTTERAT.

No. 13, Bow Lane,

July 10, 1776.

C A S E LII.

To M^{rs}. SAFFORY and MERCIER.

GENTLEMEN,

I Return you my sincere thanks for the great benefit I have received, in taking your Vegetable Syrup, by the excellency of which I have been cured of a continual pain, which occurred from having caught cold in fishing, &c. this pain was so violent, that I could not rest in the night, of which I am, thank God, radically cured, and am very willing

✓ willing to give the testimony of the above to any inquirer.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient humble servant,

CHARLES SAVARY.

Coleman Street, No. 56,

August 13, 1776.

F I N I S.

E R R A T U M.

At the End of Case XXVII. *read*, “ This case is written by the Patient, and is to be seen by enquiring at No. 39, FRITH STREET, SOHO.”

WZ 260 S 126: 1776

